

II. SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Please insert the following on page 1, at line 2:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

Please insert the following on page 1, at line 7:

2. Brief Description of Related Developments

Please insert the following on page 4, at line 28:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please insert the following on page 8, at line 31:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please insert the following on page 9, at line 17:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(s)

Please insert the following on page 16, at line 15:

What is claimed is:

Please amend the Abstract on page 21 as follows:

Abstract of the Disclosure

~~Single Mode Distributed Feedback Lasers~~

~~The present invention relates to solid state distributed feedback (DFB) lasers in which a phase shift is introduced to optical radiation circulating in a laser cavity in order to stabilise the laser into single mode operation.~~—A solid state single mode distributed feedback (DFB) laser ~~(1)~~, ~~comprises~~includes a laser waveguide ~~(10)~~, a DFB grating structure ~~(6)~~ optically coupled to the waveguide ~~(10)~~ for stabilising the wavelength of optical radiation ~~(7)~~ in the waveguide ~~(10)~~, one or more current conduction regions ~~(4', 4'')~~ for guiding an applied electrical current to pump the laser waveguide ~~(10)~~ and at least one current constriction region ~~(40)~~ adjacent the one or more current conduction regions ~~(4', 4'')~~. The DFB structure ~~(6)~~ extends in the current constriction region ~~(40)~~ and at least one of the current conduction regions ~~(4', 4'')~~. The current conduction and constriction regions ~~(4', 4'', 40)~~ are arranged so that an electrical current ~~(34)~~ applied to the current conduction region(s) ~~(4', 4'')~~ pumps the laser waveguide ~~(10)~~ preferentially in the current conduction regions ~~(4', 4'')~~ compared with the electrical constriction region ~~(40)~~ and thus varies the effective index of refraction ~~(38)~~ of the laser waveguide ~~(10)~~ in these regions ~~(4', 4'', 40)~~ in order to stabilise the optical radiation ~~(7)~~ for single mode operation of the laser ~~(1)~~.

~~Figure 1~~